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AGAWAM

Advertiser News

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A TURLEY PUBLICATION

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AJWC program reassures first-time bus riders

By Mike Lydick
Turley Publications
Correspondent

AGAWAM – Taking the school bus for the first time isn't always a fun ride for some kids. They aren't buckled in, the buses are loud and there's a stranger at the wheel. It can be scary.

To help alleviate such anxieties, the Agawam Junior Women's Club (AJWC) recently conducted its 41st annual program for children riding the bus for the first time.

"Our program is a friendly reminder to parents about what children need to know regarding getting on and off the bus correctly, the rules while riding the bus and other safety concerns," said Sarah Williams, a co-presenter and co-chair of the event.

Nearly 70 children attended the one-hour program Aug. 13 at the Agawam Public Library. At the end of the program, kids practiced what they had learned inside by going outside. There they boarded a bus provided by the Lower Pioneer Valley Collaborative and took a short ride.

Please see AJWC, page 10



Turley Publications photo by Mike Lydick
Mary Manes peers through the school bus window looking for her son, Dominic.

Melha Riders host Annual Hospital Run

AGAWAM – Aug. 10 brought with it great weather and nearly 500 motorcyclists on North Westfield Street as the Melha Riders made their eighth Annual Hospital Run, raising funds for the Shriners Hospital for Children in Springfield.

Reaching "around the \$20,000 mark" according to Riders President Scott Lavallee, the total funds raised are still in the process of being finalized with expenses not yet factored in, but will be heading

straight to the children's hospital on 516 Carew St. in Springfield.

"It's all about raising money for the kids," said Mike Santos, chairman of the Hospital Run. "Our slogan is, 'We ride so kids can walk' and that's what it's all about."

Gathering in front of the Westwood Restaurant and Pub at 94 North Elm St. in Westfield at around 10 a.m., the estimated 500 bikers from all walks of life, from

Please see MELHA, page 6

Mayor seeks to borrow for sports facility project

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications
Correspondent

AGAWAM – The city administration is pushing forward with the Agawam High School track, field and locker facility project.

The Agawam City Council has formally received a request to approve borrowing \$7.75 million to fund the project. The authorization is a dual-authorization which establishes that Mayor Richard

Cohen can borrow the funds to pay for the track, and also outlines the process of naming a design firm that will carry out the architectural drawings and construction documents.

Two years ago, Cohen established an ad-hoc Track Exploratory Committee to investigate the needs of the town and schools and identify the deficiencies of the current track and accompanying stands.

After more than a year of mull-
Please see SPORTS, page 6

Vehicle use policy stalls

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications
Correspondent

AGAWAM – A vote on whether to adopt a town ordinance concerning the use of municipal vehicles by town employees has been tabled while the city council awaits an updated policy from the city solicitor.

City Councilors Robert Rossi and Donald Rheault are sponsoring a policy that would establish a strict protocol about the use of town-owned vehicles.

Rossi said he is concerned there is not an official policy in place, even though Mayor Richard Cohen supplied a vehicle use policy in response to his proposal.

Both Cohen and City Solicitor Vincent Gioscia have called the policy unnecessary. Gioscia has noted several areas of concern in proposed ordinance.

Rossi and Rheault have answered Gioscia's questions are awaiting a modified version of the ordinance to bring to the legislative subcommittee for recommendation.

Gioscia says the ordinance does not have an enforcement authority responsible for investigation and ensuring the policy is being followed by town employees. Rossi responded, saying the mayor could be the enforcing authority.

Please see POLICY, page 6

Red Door Theatre schedules fall season

AGAWAM – Kit and Kaboodle Productions at the Red Door Theatre announced its fall season following their final summer camp production of "The Mystery of Griswald Theatre." "House of Shadows" by Lyle Pearsons, Red Door director, will be the after-school theatre camp scheduled for Tuesdays and Wednesdays, Sept. 16 through Oct. 22 from 3:45 to 5:30 p.m. Show dates are the weekend of Oct. 24 through 26. Applications are now being accepted for young people 8-15 years old. For tuition fees and eligibility requirements, visit www.reddoortheatre.com.

The Hilltop Players will present a Reader's Theatre production of the 1938 Radio presentation of H.G. Wells "War of the Worlds." The classic thriller of an alien invasion that put the nation in a panic is set for the weekend of Nov. 7 through

9. Auditions for this unique theatre are open to ages 16 to adult. Older males are especially welcome.

The Red Door's Annual Christmas Show will take place Dec. 5 to 7 and Dec. 12 to 14. This popular holiday event incorporates acting, singing and dancing in a variety style show with hip-hop penguins, chorus girl rag dolls and reindeer, marching soldiers and your Christmas elves all wrapped up in a Christmas story that warms the heart for the season. Auditions are open for ages 8 to 108 and are scheduled for Oct. 19 from 6 to 9 p.m.

For more information on these and other events and theatre classes, call 413-789-2026 or visit www.reddoortheatre.com. The Red Door Theatre is located at 152 South Westfield St., Feeding Hills, on the hill next to Hope Community Church.



Turley Publications courtesy photo

Red Door actors Drake Muth, Erica Jenkins, Alyssa Blair, Matthew Norris, Devin Gearty and Marisa Balise take a final photo op at their last performance of "The Mystery of Griswald Theatre," which ended the Summer Camp theatre season at the Red Door Theatre.



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ARE YOU OLD NEWS?



Each week the *Agawam Advertiser News* digs into its submitted photo archives and selects a people photo to publish. We need your help to help identify those pictured. Email your answers by Monday at noon to tkane@turley.com.



Last week's photo: Correctly identifying David Cecchi in last week's paper was Gina Ferraro Cronin.

V&F joins 'Strike Out ALS'



Turley Publications courtesy photo

Employees at V&F Auto, located 443 Springfield St., Agawam, joined the "Bucket Challenge" recently to "Strike Out ALS."

AGAWAM - V&F Auto Service and CARQUEST of Agawam recently joined forces and completed the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge as a group. The employees from both V&F Auto Service and V&F Auto Parts (CARQUEST) got together Aug. 18 after work in order to help raise awareness and Strike Out ALS.

V&F made the ice bucket challenge worth seeing. Owner Frank Palange had his bucket loader on-premise

to assist in the challenge. The company made a donation to the ALS Foundation as well.

"We have been amazed by the outcome the organization has seen from this challenge," said Palange. "It is a unique way of raising awareness while raising money for a great cause. It's good to see something like this go viral. We need more news like this, news that shows the good in people."



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Cyclone will get ‘hybrid’ facelift

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Cyclone will not be gone very long.

Six Flags New England announced last week they will be constructing and opening the new “Wicked Cyclone.” The roller coaster will be a wood and steel hybrid of its predecessor, the “Cyclone.” Cyclone was closed on July 20 after 31 years of service to the customers of Six Flags, and before that, Riverside Park.

It was one of the oldest wooden roller coasters in the country, and had the hearts of wooden coaster enthusiasts from the older generations. There were mixed reviews from customers when the park decided it was time to close the ride, Public Relations Director Jennifer McGrath said.

According to a press release from Six Flags, the coaster will return with a “new twist.” It will feature a state-of-the-art sleek steel track with a wooden base. McGrath says it will be the first hybrid roller coaster on the East Coast.

“This technological innovation will combine the classic thrills of a wooden structure, with a new modern track and rails constructed out of steel, providing a ride that’s faster and smoother than ever before,” the press release states. “The latest in ride technology allows for ride experiences never before possible on wooden coasters.”

The track will a little more than a half-mile and the major drop in the track will be a 109-foot lift hill. The drop is projected be about 55 miles per hour and provide a sense of “weightlessness.”

“The coaster’s unique construction will also make it the first coaster of its kind to have a 200-degree stall and two twisting Zero G Rolls,” McGrath said.

At its maximum height, riders will be 10 stories in the air. Like the original, the cars will seat 24 riders. While still having the look of a wooden roller coaster, it will have a smoother, faster and more intense ride than its predecessor.

“We take great pride in creating incredible, one-of-a-kind experiences for our guests here at the Thrill Capital of New England,” said John Winkler, Six Flags New England park president. “This project has been years in the making, and the addition of Wicked Cyclone enhances our commitment to delivering world-class thrills to Six Flags New England every year.”

When Six Flags announced the closing of the original Cyclone, McGrath said the attraction would be replaced with something, but park officials were mum before making the announcement of the hybrid coaster a month later.

With the announcement of revamped Cyclone, Six Flags is now announcing the sale of season passes and their Halloween attractions.

Because of the raise in height for the coaster, the park may have to go in front of the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals to receive a variance to building the higher track.

Six Flags already has conceptual photographs and a virtual ride on their website. The new coaster will have the same white wooden look with orange steel rails adding to unique new ride.

Catholic Women celebrate diamond anniversary



Looking over past Agawam Catholic Women’s Club photo albums are (back row, from left) - Jackie Toussaint, president; Betsy Ciempa, assistant treasurer; Betty Chapman, 2nd vice president; and JoAnne Krause, treasurer. Front row (from left) - Eileen Kane, director; Janet Platosz, director; and Judy Grimaldi, director. Missing from photo: Sheryl Mardeusz, 1st vice president.

AGAWAM - The Agawam Catholic Women’s Club celebrated its 75-year anniversary recently with a dinner at Crestview Country Club in Agawam.

Among those in attendance were club members, past parish pastors and nuns and the eldest member of the club, 93-year-old Adele Gallano. The night’s events also included the presentation of a citation from Mayor Richard A. Cohen as well as a coveted Papal Blessing from Pope Francis, a document certifying that the Holy Father has bestowed his apostolic blessing as a gift for an anniversary or birthday.

Guests and members had the opportunity to browse through old photo albums, one of which included a picture of Miss Marguerite F. Caldon, the first president of the club in 1938. Attendees were given a 75th anniversary Blessed Mary gift bag and bookmark, which included the history of the club.

The Agawam Catholic Women’s Club meets the second Monday of each month at St. John’s Parish Center on Main Street in Agawam. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, Sept 8. New members and guests are welcome.

Wallis completes Cadet Troop Leader Training

Andrew S. Wallis, an Army Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) cadet at the University of New Haven in West Haven, Conn., has completed a Cadet Troop Leader Training (CTLT) assignment. Wallis is the son of Kate H. Wallis, of Feeding Hills. He is a 2011 graduate of Agawam High School.

CTLT allows Army ROTC cadets to experience leadership in Army units throughout the continental United States as well as overseas, where they serve in lieutenant-level positions for three or four weeks. The cadets work with and under assigned unit mentors in situations where their potential as platoon leaders can be evaluated.

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Precinct 3: Agawam High School, 760 Cooper Street

Precinct 4: Roberta G. Doering School, 68 Main Street

Precinct 5: Benjamin J. Phelps School, 689 Main Street

Precinct 6: James Clark School, 65 Oxford Street

Precinct 7: Agawam Junior High School, 1305 Springfield Street


Precinct 8: James Clark School, 65 Oxford Street

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Richard M. Theroux, Town Clerk

Opinion

Town vehicle debate needs resolution

How strict should a policy that concerns public safety be?

A pair of Agawam City Councilors are still sparring with Mayor Richard Cohen over the establishment of a city council ordinance that would target what city officials have vehicles assigned to them, and what the vehicles can be used for.

The mayor has countered that such a policy already exists and presented them with a copy of that policy.

There is a rift between the mayor and the two sponsoring councilors, Robert Rossi and Donald Rheault, about how much oversight is needed for municipal vehicles.

The mayor's policy presented to the council with his response seems to cover many of the areas the council is seeking to address.

Areas not addressed by the mayor's policy include marking and decaling of town vehicles and who is allowed to have a vehicle. It is possible the mayor could add these to his existing policy to satisfy those issues.

The mayor also stated he has considered limiting individuals with a vehicle the "discretion" to use their town-owned vehicle as needed. In the interest of public safety, any public safety official, which includes the mayor, should have the discretion to use the vehicle as needed. If the council wants more oversight, they could ask the mayor to require reporting of off-hour use of town-owned vehicles and the council could evaluate that.

The council should bear in mind before adding more policies that complicate government operation that the mayor needs to be able to administer the town on a daily basis. The ability to use town-owned vehicles to perform their functions is a necessary part of public service. Things happen, and sometimes decisions need to be made in an instant.

Most other towns and cities have vehicles for their mayor and public safety department heads so they are able to respond from home in an emergency.

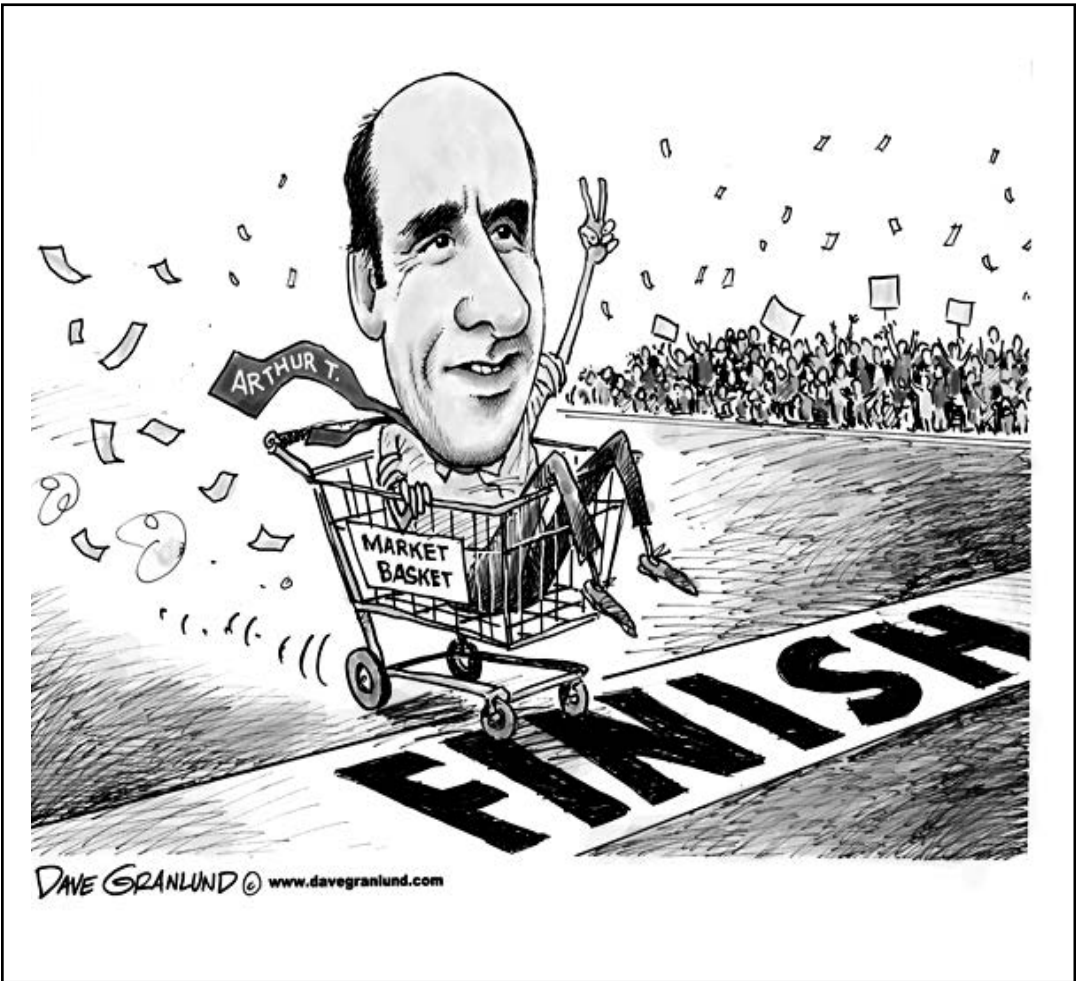
The council wanting to protect the pocket-book of the town is a great thing, but it needs to be made reasonable so departments are not bogged down with more paperwork reporting their every move and rather be able to do their jobs.

The town of Agawam has purchased eight hybrid, energy efficient vehicles in the past few years, helping to save thousands of dollars in fuel costs. These vehicles are being used in the Department of Public Works, Fire Department, and mayor's office, all in the interest of saving taxpayer money. There are plenty eyes trying to save the town money.

All employees with a vehicle pay income tax because it qualifies with the IRS as a fringe benefit.

So this perk is not totally free for town employees.

A compromise could lie within the mayor's policy with a few oversight tweaks to satisfy the council.



Sweet & Sour Pork

I love cooking with pork tenderloin. The meat is often on sale and because it is very lean, it has very little waste. In recent years, the pork industry has caused the quality of pork to 'evolved.' Pigs are raised in more sanitary conditions resulting in a healthier product. Since I named the cut, it is not advised to ask your butcher for a 'pork fillet.'

A pork fillet is a slice of pork cut about two inches thick from a pork tenderloin and pounded to 1/4" – 1/2" thick. And of course, the thickness of the pork will determine the actual length of cooking time. Due to the new conditions of how pigs are raised, cooking temperatures have changed. Although pork should cook to 145 degrees, it is now considered safe if there is a hint of pink. Depending upon the size of the tenderloin, I can usually get five or six fillets from one whole tenderloin.

Any extra 'bits' that result from cutting and trimming are stored in the freezer and used in soups, pasta sauces, or other recipes that I have calling for 'pork bits.' (I have a great recipe for 'Pork Fried Rice.') Be sure to remove the silver skin from the tenderloin prior to slicing the meat. Silver skin is a tough tendon surrounding about a portion of the whole tenderloin.

When pork sirloin cutlets are on sale, I will sometimes substitute them for the pork fillets. When I do the substitution, I also pound this cut of meat to give it a more tender result. Apricot preserves, peach jam, or grape jelly have worked well as a substitute to the raspberry jelly.

Sweet & Sour Pork

1/3 C. dark Russian salad dressing
1 T. raspberry jelly or jam
1 T. soy sauce
1 tsp. onion soup mix
1/2 tsp. minced garlic
1/8 tsp. ground ginger
10-12 oz. pork fillets
2 T. flour
1 T. cooking oil

In a small bowl; combine salad dressing, jelly, soy sauce, soup mix, garlic, and ginger with a wire whisk. Set aside. Dredge pork fillets in flour. Heat oil over high heat in a 10" skillet that has been sprayed with nonstick cooking spray. When the oil is hot (do not allow to smoke), reduce heat to medium-high and cook fillets for about 1 minute on each side. Reduce heat to low and pour dressing mixture over fillets. Cover and simmer for 6-8 minutes. Turn fillets over, uncover and simmer for another 6-8 minutes just until pork is cooked through. Serve immediately. Yield: 2 servings. NOTES: If available, fresh ginger makes a great substitute for dry ground ginger. I would use about 1/4 -1/2 tsp. minced.

Ann Macey is the author of 'ANN'S TABLE FOR TWO: Quick & Easy Two Serving Recipes.' Ann welcomes your questions and comments. You may contact her at: AnnsTable@gmail.com



2014 Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do

not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.

Letters to the Editor must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters. All letters are subject to editing for content and space. The deadline is Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. Please send letters to *Agawam Advertiser News*, Letters to the Editor, Attn: Teri Machia, 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030 or e-mail aan@turley.com.

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Agawam Girl Scouts ‘Magnify Their Senses’



Turley Publications courtesy photo
Program aide Chloe Robinson works with the younger Junior Girl Scout Troop 20559 members at the recent “Camporee” at Camp Bonnie Brae.

AGAWAM - One hundred Agawam girls and adults recently joined together for the annual Girl Scout Camporee at Camp Bonnie Brae (CBB) located at the foothills of the Berkshire Mountains of East Otis.

Although the weather was dreary and wet fire circles meant an inside campfire, spirits were high at the Friday night sing-along. Troop 20559 had been practicing during recent troop meetings and treated the girls to a variety of serious and silly songs.

On Saturday morning at 7:15 sharp, the famous CBB gong gave the wake-up call. After the opening ceremony around the flag-pole, girls were divided into groups. With the theme of the camporee being “Magnify Your Senses,” girls were excited and intrigued to begin. As they rotated the program stations, they saw different areas of camp and participated in badge activities related to senses (Daisy and Brownie Girl Scouts) and detective work (Juniors and above).

For Junior Girl Scouts, a popular scavenger hunt with clues laid out challenged them to observe the fine details of detective work. They also learned how the FBI compares the seven different patterns in fingerprint identification.

At the same time, the Daisy and Brownie Scouts were discovering what the bandana in their backpack was for. They were blindfolded with it and used their sense of smell to distinguish between a grapefruit, orange or lemon. While still blindfolded, they also took a taste test sampling salty, sour, sweet or bitter foods, and then proceeded to put their ears to work to figure out some sound boxes.

As afternoon activities resumed, Junior Girl Scouts could be found learning the Girl Scout promise in sign language, practicing writing their names in Braille, and learning how Helen Keller managed her disabilities. Daisy and Brownie Girl Scouts continued to explore their sense of sight by figuring out some optical illusions.

Troop free time in late afternoon was a welcome chance to “chill out” before supper, evaluations, and a closing ceremony.

On Sunday as everyone packed to return home, they were reminded of a quote from Juliette Gordon Low, the founder of Girl Scouts in 1912, “A Girl Scout always leaves a place cleaner than the way she found it.” Unit site inspection was important.

Drug Take Back Day set for Sept. 27

AGAWAM - National Drug Take Back Day is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 27 at Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main St., from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The purpose of this free collection day is to allow residents to dispose of old medications, drugs and syringes safely, with no questions asked.

Used needles, syringes and lancets will be collected in approved sharps containers only. Puncture-proof laundry bottles will not be accepted. Items not accepted include chemo drugs, IV bags, as well as liquids of any type.

This event is sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration, Agawam Health Department, Agawam Police Department, Agawam MRC and the Agawam mayor’s office.



Lissa Asta-Ferrero to wed Jeremy Picard

Patrick and Karen Asta-Ferrero, of Agawam, announce the engagement of their daughter, Lissa Ann Asta-Ferrero, to Jeremy Edward Picard, of Ludlow. The future bridegroom is the son of Omer (Bill) and Barbara Picard, of Ludlow.

The bride-to-be, a graduate of Agawam High School, earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business and legal studies from Bath Path University, a Master of Education in special education, and is currently working on a certificate of advanced graduate studies in administration at American International College. She is a teacher in the Westfield Public Schools.

The future bridegroom, a graduate of Ludlow High School, earned an Associate’s degree in business from Holyoke Community College. He is a locksmith with W.C. Rackliffe and Son, Inc. in Agawam.

An April 18, 2015 wedding is planned at the Wistariahurst Museum in Holyoke.



Turley Publications courtesy photo
Jeremy E. Picard and Lissa A. Asta-Ferrero

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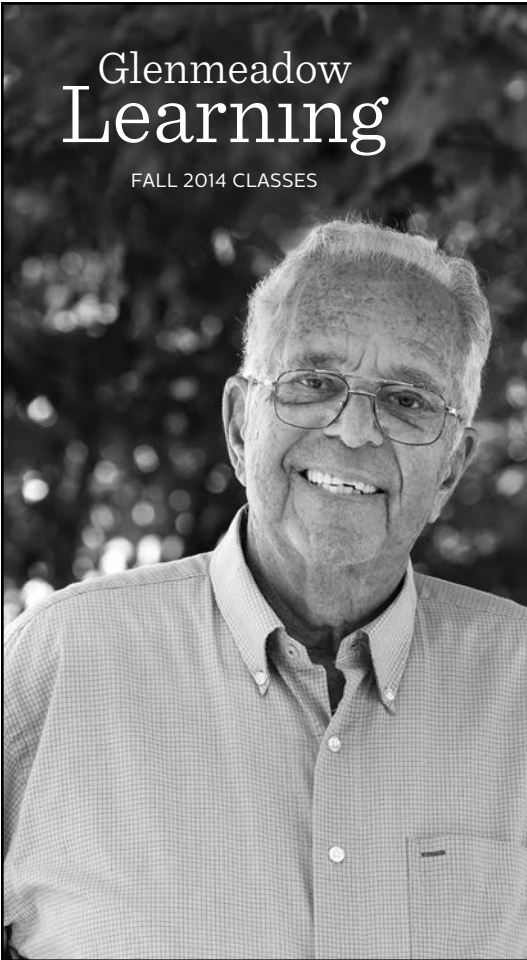
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Middle Eastern Cauldron: Current Developments and Their Impact on the U.S. SEP. 23, 10 AM–NOON

The Memory Muscle: Understanding the Brain and Keeping It Fit OCT. 21, 10 AM–NOON

The Garden of Letters: Author Alyson Richman’s Work of Fiction NOV. 4, 10 AM–11:30 AM

Armed with Awareness: Keeping Safe in Your World NOV. 18, 10 AM–NOON

.....

Glenmeadow Getaways: Convenient Trips for Travelers OCT. 14, 10 AM; OCT. 28, 6:30 PM

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Programs are free and open to the public, space is limited. For locations or to enroll, call 413.567.7800 or e-mail learning@glenmeadow.org. Visit glenmeadow.org/learning.

Seniors

Agawam Senior Center

Weekly calendar of events

Monday, Sept. 8: 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga, Avada Available for Free Hearing Test; 9 a.m., Painting Club; 9:30 a.m., Line Dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., Bingo; 5 p.m., Zumba Gold.	Thursday, Sept. 11: 9 a.m., Exercise; 9:30 a.m., No Quilting; 10 a.m., Line Dancing; 12:30 p.m., Bridge, Free blood Pressure Check; 1 p.m., Pitch, Open Art; 2 p.m., Melody Band Practice; 6:30 p.m., Pitch.
Tuesday, Sept. 9: SHINE Representative Available (by appt.); 9 a.m., Exercise Class Begins, Last Shuffleboard at St. John's, Sewing Class, Knitting Class; 10 a.m., Computer Tech Club Meets, PACE; 12:30 p.m., Ladies Billiards, Mah Jongg, Movie ("Still Mine"); 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 4:30 p.m., Yoga; 6 p.m., Beginner Line Dance; 7 p.m., Garden Club Meets.	Friday, Sept. 12: 8 a.m., Yoga; 9:15 a.m., All Media Art; Noon, Canasta; 1 p.m., Pitch, Cribbage; 5 p.m., Zumba Gold
Wednesday, Sept. 10: 8 a.m., Weight Training; 8:15 a.m., Yoga; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., Bridge; 1 p.m., Scrabble, Ballroom Lessons; 1:30 p.m., Golden Age Chapter 1 Meeting; 5 p.m., Zumba Gold; 6 p.m., Speaker Marie Sturdevant.	

Melha Riders host Annual Hospital Run

MELHA, from page 1

local hobbyists to Hospital Run veterans, entered into formation at noon and made their way to North Westfield Street where they proceeded to Feeding Hills Center around 12:30 p.m.

Watched by residents who sat along the sidewalk, the riders were greeted with a cascade of holy water thrown by St. John the Evangelist's Deacon Michael Perkins on the corner of North Westfield Street and Springfield Street. Asked to bless the riders as they made their way through town, the Roman Catholic deacon obliged with enthusiasm as he emptied the gallons of holy water he brought with him.

"They invited me over and I said, 'Yeah, sure I'll be there,' so I came with my thrower and big bucket of holy water," said Perkins. "One of the best jobs you can get is staying here and throwing holy water at them!"

The riders proceeded down Route 57 where they soon made their way into Springfield to the Shriners Hospital, circling around its rotunda as children and their parents waved on as the motorcycles made their yearly rounds.

"It went perfect," Santos said. "It's why I keep doing it every year. I always think it's too big a task for me but then when I ride through the hospital rotunda and see all of the parents and kids smiling and after that, I'm on board for next year again to be the chair person."

Following the visit to the hospital, the riders then proceeded to the Shriners Temple at 133 Longhill St. for a cookout and after party celebrating the run's success and ideal weather backing it up.

First made up in 1997 when a number of Shriners members decided to form a club for motorcycle enthusiasts, the Melha Riders planned the first Hospital Run nine years ago as a means of raising money for the Shriners Hospital for Children.

Specializing in treating children with spinal cord injuries as well as offering orthopedic surgery and treatment for neuromusculoskeletal disorders, the hospital is one of a network of Shriners medical facilities totaling 22 across North America.

With its first hospital established in 1922 in Louisiana, fundraising and donations have been a vital part of the Shriners organization, a cause that Santos and other Hospital Run organizers are openly passionate about.

"It's a cause that's close to my heart," Santos said. "There's nothing that makes you feel better than helping children and that's what it's all about, to give back."

Vehicle use policy stalls

POLICY, from page 1

The city council is the legislative body of town government and therefore cannot enforce the ordinances.

The original policies implemented fines for violations, such as using a town vehicle for personal use. Fines range from \$25 for the first offense to \$200. Gioscia described the fines as excessive and could trigger grievances.

"Personnel matters like this are dealt with through the disciplinary process," Gioscia responded.

In turn, Rossi and Rheault revised their proposal by stating violators were subject to disciplinary action, which could include termination from employment.

"We understand the concern about the fines and we have watered down that part of the ordinance," said Rossi.

Rheault said he believes the change will make the disciplinary process more flexible.

One of the biggest concerns raised by Gioscia is over the term "personal use." Gioscia says that is not defined in the proposed policy. He also noted safety officials like police and fire chief are on "duty" 24 hours a day and would have to drive back to their municipal vehicle's location in the event of an emergency, delaying a potential response time to an incident such as a fire.

Rossi and Rheault both believe their policy is necessary and should be implemented by the town.

"We have addressed all of his concerns and we would like to move forward with this in a modified version of the policy," said Rossi.

Rheault said he is very concerned with a part of the policy that requires all town vehicles be marked with a departmental or town seal so they are recognized in town by the taxpayers.

Cohen continues to oppose the implementation of the policy, believing it will create litigation or grievances by department heads who are not able to use their municipal vehicles with a certain amount of discretion. The mayor notes he is also required to respond to incidents, such as storm damage, during off-hours with his vehicle.

"That has been the practice for prior mayors and town managers," said Cohen.

Cohen also said his administration has taken steps to reduce liability with town vehicles. DPW vehicles are equipped with global positioning systems that monitor use. The town is also now using a policy to purchase hybrid vehicles whenever possible to save the town on servicing and fuel costs.

Councilor Anthony Suffriti originally co-sponsored the ordinance, but said he was satisfied with the mayor's policy and withdrew his support.

Mayor seeks to borrow for sports facility project

SPORTS, from page 1

ing different options, an architectural firm made conceptual drawings outlining a new track, new stadium for multiple sports, including football, soccer, field hockey and lacrosse, and a new configuration for sports fields on the Agawam High School campus.

The plan also includes major renovations for the locker rooms to get them up to code with Title IX.

Early in the summer, the Agawam City Council endorsed the Master Plan that was presented by the sub-committee. The resolution did not do anything other than gauge support for the project from the council.

Cohen is asking the city council to approve borrowing for up to \$7.75 million, but the resolution adds that Community Preservation Act funds "will be utilized, if applicable and approved" to help reduce the borrowing. The administration and CPA are still exploring what parts of the project would be eligible for CPA funding, though areas like vertical construction and artificial surfaces are not eligible.

The resolution also states the school district would pursue funding from the Massachusetts School Building Authority to potentially be used for the locker room improvements. Both locker rooms will be completely revamped and unisex restroom/locker rooms must also be installed. The public has commented they would like to see the regular bathrooms be improved because they are in very poor condition.

The outlined design procedure will also be of interest to the council. It allows the mayor to be the approving body for the designer.

The rules of the process state Cohen will form a selection committee, which will evaluate the designer proposal and make a recommendation to the mayor. If the mayor does not choose the top ranked designer, he must provide a written justification for making a different choice.

The city council has referred the borrowing to its Finance Sub-committee, which will meet on the matter and make a recommendation to the full council at their Sept. 15 meeting. Because it is a borrowing authorization, it will require eight votes of the council to pass.


The current track consists of a gravel surface with no running lanes for relay races. The stands are in poor condition and parts of them have had to be closed to the public. The proposal calls for the creation of a small stadium with an artificial turf field and an all-weather track. There would be stands on one side of the field. There will also be improvements to the practice fields, tennis courts, and the varsity baseball field will be moved behind the high school building.

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Public Safety

FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 51 EMS calls and the following emergency response calls for the week from Aug. 26 to Sept. 1.

On Aug. 26 at 7:55 a.m., the department responded to Southwick Street for motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

On Aug. 26 at 8:07 a.m., the department responded to Florida Drive for passenger vehicle fire.

On Aug. 26 at 1:12 p.m., the department responded to Mountainview Street for alarm system activation, no fire – unintentional.

On Aug. 26 at 4:20 p.m., the department responded to Cardinal Drive for public service assistance, other.

On Aug. 26 at 5:11 p.m., the department responded to Valentine Street for good intent call, other.

On Aug. 26 at 5:18 p.m., the department responded to Hendom Drive for public service assistance, other.

On Aug. 26 at 7:22 p.m., the department responded to Birch Hill Road for alarm system activation, no fire – unintentional.

On Aug. 27 at 1:43 a.m., the department responded to Main Street for good intent call, other.

On Aug. 28 at 3:26 a.m., the department responded to Main Street for smoke scare, odor of smoke.

On Aug. 28 at 4:42 a.m., the department responded to Mansion Woods Drive for service call, other.

On Aug. 28 at 2:59 p.m., the department responded to Cardinal Drive to assist invalid.

On Aug. 29 at 2:30 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for lockout.

On Aug. 29 at 10:48 p.m., the department responded to Beekman Place for lockout.

On Aug. 30 at 7:35 a.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for motor vehicle accident with injuries.

On Aug. 30 at 10:06 p.m., the department responded to Regency Park Drive for smoke or odor removal.

On Aug. 30 at 10:20 p.m., the department responded to South Street for unauthorized burning.

On Aug. 31 at 1:54 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for gasoline or other flammable liquid spill.

On Aug. 31 at 6:45 p.m., the department responded to Begley Street for alarm system activation, no fire – unintentional.

On Sept. 1 at 5:31 p.m., the department responded to Regency Park Drive for gasoline or other flammable liquid spill.

On Sept. 1 at 7:19 p.m., the department responded to Doane Avenue for power line down.

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 276 calls for service from Aug. 26 to Sept. 1. The department made 4 arrests. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Tuesday, Aug. 26

Hector L. Ramos, 38, of 36 Richelieu St., Springfield, was arrested on a charge of operating a motor vehicle with license suspended.

Thursday, Aug. 28

Heather Lee Paulson, 34, homeless, was arrested on a default warrant for failure to appear.


Saturday, Aug. 30

Marvin Kitt, 55, of 23 Suffield St., Apt. 28, Agawam, was arrested on a charge of trespassing.


A juvenile from Agawam was arrested for operating a motor vehicle with license suspended and no inspection sticker.

PEOPLE POLL


Agawam Advertiser News intern Kelly Bronson asked local residents: “What is your favorite part of the Big E?”




Rae Emmons
The clam fritters




Mathew Christy
The state buildings




Maddison Uzar
Mini donuts



Elizabeth Manely
The concerts



Billy Cotrone
The food



Lauren Booth
Going to the New Hampshire building to get the broccoli cheddar soup and blueberry pie.

(Early Varieties Weather Permitting)

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Fri, Sat, Sun 11-8:30

Hazardous Waste Collection set for Sept. 6

AGAWAM - The Agawam Department of Public Works will hold its annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day Saturday, Sept. 6 at the DPW Annex, 1000 Suffield St., from 9 a.m. to noon.

This program offers residents a safe, economical way to dispose of household items that are flammable, reactive, corrosive or toxic. Solvents, pesticides, caustic cleaners, and oil based paints are some examples of the different types of items that will be accepted. For a complete list of acceptable materials, visit www.agawam.ma.us.

This event is free to Agawam residents, but pre-registration is required. Appointments may be scheduled by calling the DPW at 821-0600 ext. 0 or 821-0624.

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Business

Spryzenski brings his business home

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications Correspondent

AGAWAM – The classic barber shop look and classic barber shop feel with a modernized twist is what makes up The Barber on Springfield Street in Agawam.

Owner Tony Spryzenski has been in business since last year and says moving his barber shop dream to his home town of Agawam, was a great decision.

“I really like the people here,” said Spryzenski. “This is where I am from and it’s great to have my business running here again.”

The barber is focused on giving males the perfect haircut, buzz cut or trim. He originally started Tony’s Famous Barber Shop in Springfield. He moved his business to another area of Springfield and eventually sold it.

“I floated around and worked in a few different barber shops, including a barber shop in Agawam,” said Spryzenski.

He would last work at a Nick’s Barber Shop in West Springfield. When the business was getting ready to close, Spryzenski found an old appliance store building was available for sale at 665 Springfield Street, and took advantage of the chance to “come home.”

“It’s been an amazing run since I have come back to Agawam,” said Spryzenski. “We have been working really hard and cutting a lot of people’s hair. It is great being back in business for myself.”

Spryzenski retained a pair of full-time barbers from his previous location and is looking to hire more barbers so he can have a more managerial role in his business.

“I am hoping to get a couple more barbers in here once they have graduated from barber college so I can have people here taking walk-ins and appointments during all of our operating hours,” said Spryzenski.

Currently, Spryzenski is the only barber who is taking appointments, but he is hoping that will change soon.

The Barber features a checked floor and three barber’s chairs currently. The barber’s chairs are old-fashioned and have been re-upholstered to be used in the new shop. Spryzenski says he has two more chairs in the event he expands the number of seats available in the shop.

Spryzenski also expanded into the back of the building and has a small coffee bar with a flat-screen television to provide a modernized waiting area for his customers.

“I want my customers to have a very relaxed atmosphere and enjoy coming in here for a haircut,” said Spryzenski.

Spryzenski also pays homage to the past of barber shops with shadow boxes on the walls featuring old barber tools.

The business is also entirely handicapped accessible so anyone can come in the building.

“I had to gut part of the building to bring it completely up to code,” said Spryzenski. “But we wanted to make sure that we included everyone that wants to have their hair cut.”

As an expansion to the barber services offered, Spryzenski has a massage therapist taking appointments in a space in the



Turley Publications photo by Gregory A. Scibelli
Tony Spryzenski cuts Tyler Lyne’s hair last Thursday at The Barber. The business recently celebrated a ribbon cutting.

same building.

The hours for The Barber are Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Thursdays until 7 p.m., and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The shop is closed Sunday and Monday.

A grand opening and ribbon cutting was held a few weeks ago.

Curves to host open house, food drive

Curves International, Inc., the largest chain of fitness centers for women in the world, announced recently that participating Curves are hosting an open house the week of Sept. 15-20. New members can receive 30 days free in addition to a free workout. Curves of Feeding Hills, located at 16 Southwick St., is among the participating locations.

The open house week provides women with the opportunity to check out their local “all-new” Curves and take some important “me time.” In conjunction with the open house, a food drive to benefit the Parish Cupboard will be held to help refill the shelves after the slow summer months. Donors will receive additional prizes and incentives.

For more information, visit www.curves.com. Curves of Feeding Hills will be offering activities including bar and shake-tastings, custom bra fittings and skin care demos, raffles, giveaways and more.

Garden Club to meet Sept. 9

The Agawam Garden Club will hold a meeting Tuesday, Sept. 9 at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, located at 954 Main St. Guest speaker for the evening will be David Cecchi, who will discuss the history of Agawam farming. Members and non-members are welcome.

Legal Notices

**LEGAL NOTICE
TOWN OF AGAWAM
PLANNING BOARD**
The Agawam Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, September 18, 2014 at 6:45 PM** at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of DCJ Realty, LLC for a zone change request on South West Street from Agriculture and Residence A2 to all Business A. Copies of the proposed zone change can be obtained from the Agawam Planning Office between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM in the Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA.

BY ORDER OF:
Mark R. Paleologopoulos,
Chairman
Agawam Planning Board
9/4,9/11/14

**LEGAL
ADVERTISEMENT
INVITATION TO BID
TOWN OF AGAWAM
CONTRACTOR
SERVICES FOR
AGAWAM DOG PARK**
The Town of Agawam seeks bids from qualified contractors for the construc-

tion of Agawam Dog Park in Agawam, Massachusetts as described in the Instructions to Bidders.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available for pick-up on or after September 3, 2014 at www.BidDocsOnline.com (may be viewed electronically or a hardcopy can be requested)

A copy of the Bid Form may be examined and/or obtained from www.BidDocsOnline.com (may be viewed electronically or a hardcopy can be requested) beginning Wednesday, September 3, 2014

Completed proposals must be submitted no later than **2:30 PM on Friday, September 19, 2014** to the Office of the Mayor, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA

Richard A. Cohen, Mayor
9/4/14

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD14P1750GD**
**In the Matter of:
Rebekah M Creel
Of: Agawam, MA
RESPONDENT**

**Alleged Incapacitated
Person
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF PETITION
FOR APPOINTMENT OF
GUARDIAN FOR
INCAPACITATED
PERSON PURSUANT TO
G.L. c. 190B, §5-304**
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Marisa A Opal** of Agawam, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Rebekah M Creel** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Marisa A Opal** of Agawam, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of

09/23/2014. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person’s right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Anne M Geoffrion, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 26, 2014
Suzanne T Seguin
Register of Probate

9/4/14

S	R	B	M		D	A	I	N	T	Y		
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All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to klanier@turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legals for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x271.

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In the Classroom

FUNDRAISER ASSISTS RETIRED TEACHER



Turley Publications courtesy photo

A fundraiser was held earlier this summer for Paul Bachini, retired gym teacher at Clifford Granger School in Feeding Hills, who was hit by a car earlier this year while walking with his wife on South Westfield Street. Presenting the check, which represents the proceeds from 10 percent of the total sales at E.B's Restaurant on as well as a collection envelope, is owner Ed Borgatti. From left - Michael Reed, Cassie Reed, Doug Reed, Shelley Reed, Borgatti, Bachini and his wife, Debbie, their daughter, and Agawam Superintendent of Schools William Sapelli.

English class offered at Agawam Library

The Agawam Public Library will offer an interactive conversational English class every Monday from 6 to 7:30 p.m. beginning Monday, Sept. 8.

This free class is sponsored by the Friends of the Agawam Library, and is open to all adult learners who are looking to improve their English in the areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing. This course will cover grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation and various aspects of conversational English.

Amadou Talla, the instructor, is a Massachusetts certified teacher and holds a degree in teaching English to speakers of other languages. He has been a teacher for almost 20 years, and is very enthusiastic about helping students meet their goals.

These classes are free and open to the public. For more information or to register, contact Judy Clini at the library at 413-789-1550 ext. 8855 or email jclini@agawamlibrary.org.

Upcoming School Committee meeting at AJHS library

Regular School Committee Meeting
Agawam Jr. High School Library
1305 Springfield St., Feeding Hills
Tuesday, Sept. 9 – 7 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Executive Session – 6:15 p.m. (contract negotiations)
3. Moment of Silence
4. Roll Call of Attendance
5. Regular Meeting – 7:00 p.m.
6. Citizen's Speak Time:
7. Highlights on Education:
 - a. Convocation Video
8. Superintendent's Notes:
9. Student Advisory Committee Representative Update:
10. Unfinished Business: None
11. Business Meeting:
 - a. Routine Matters
 - 1) Approval of Minutes
 - 2) Calendar/Correspondence
 - 3) Warrants/Transfers
 - b. Reports:

- 1). Scheduled Reports:
 - Summer School Update (paper report)
 - Summer Enrichment Programs Update (paper reports)
 - Technology Update – M. Feeley, A. Flynn, & K. Poggi
- 2). Subcommittee Updates
12. New Business:
 - a. SCR-14-21, Approval of AHS graduation ceremony on Sunday, June 7, 2015, at 1:00 p.m. at Symphony Hall
 - b. SCR-14-22, Approval to Establish a Peer Mediation Club as an extracurricular activity at the AJHS with an advisor
 - c. SCR-14-23, Authorization to construct a new track, field, and school locker facility at Agawam High School
 - d. SCR-14-24. Approval of the Rayna D. Castro Memorial Scholarship
 - e. SCR-14-25, Authorization to construct a New Early Childhood Center
13. Any other items that may legally come before the committee
14. Adjournment

CHAMBER SCHOLARS



Turley Publications courtesy photo

West of the River Chamber of Commerce scholarship recipients Michael Rossi and Jenna Wright (center) receive their awards from (left to right) John Weiss, Chamber president; Dee Emery-Ferrero, Education Committee; and Alan Rogers, Education Committee.

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AJWC program reassures first-time bus riders

AJWC, from page 1

To make the program even more kid friendly, and to help kids remember how to be safe riders, the AJWC brought in their special mascot, the Safety Bug.

The colorful and cute “bug” was actually AHS senior Jennifer Stempel inside the costume. The larger-than-life mascot was another way to make kids feel more comfortable.

“We introduced the Safety Bug a number of years ago to make the presentation less scary to kids,” said Donna Shibley, co-presenter.

Safety and emotional benefits

Christina Beauchemin, co-chair, said the program benefits any child getting ready for school.

“Even if a child won’t be taking the bus daily, he or she may still use it for field trips or other events,” she said

Besides learning important safety lessons, there’s another value to the program.

“It creates an emotional readiness for that first day of kindergarten when children get on the bus without mom and dad,” said Beauchemin, whose son Jacob attended the program. “It was beneficial for me to see my son get on the bus. It gave me confidence he can make his way in the world without me. I’m not ready for him to go off to kindergarten, but this baby step is helping ease some of my anxiety.”

Beware of danger zone

In her presentation, Williams told children to always stay “five giant steps” away from the street when waiting for the bus.

“If you’re too close, you’re in the danger zone,” she said. “The danger zone is the area right around the bus. The safe place to wait is five giant steps back from where the bus will stop.”

Williams also stressed that kids should never stop to pick anything up when crossing the street., for several reasons including the fact that bus drivers may not see them.

“Even if it’s your favorite Barbie or Lego, don’t pick it up,” she told the children. “Tell an adult you need help. We can replace lunch boxes and pencils and paper, but we can’t replace you.”

AJWC assisted the police department when it originally ran the program using a film strip on safety.

“Then we took it over, updated it, added the Safety Bug and made it our own,” said Shibley.

She said the school department, which isn’t involved with the AJWC program, had offered a similar late summer program that took kids on buses to schools to meet key school personnel.

“When it stopped because of budget cuts, we felt there was even more of a need for our program,” she said.

Allaying parent concerns

Shibley addressed parent concerns during her presentation. She commended parents



Agawam Junior Women’s Club members Donna Shibley (l) and Sarah Williams were the co-presenters at the club’s 41st program for first-time school bus riders.

for helping make their child’s first bus-riding experience a positive one.

“We want your child to feel happy and safe when riding the school bus,” she said.

She said bus drivers care about the children, adding, “Your child will be treated as if they were one of their own.”

Shibley said parents must send a note to school whenever their child won’t be taking the bus -- such as going to a doctor’s appointment.

“Without a note, your child must take the bus,” she said.

Bus routes designed for safety

Bus routes have been planned to ensure the safety of children, Shibley said. Parents with concerns about their child’s bus stop must contact the school department since drivers cannot make any changes.

“It may be more convenient for you to have the bus go onto each street or add additional stops, but this increases the length of the ride to and from school,” she said.

If a child plans to go to another house after school, parents are responsible for making those transportation arrangements. Additionally, if a parent cannot wait with their child at the bus stop or meet the bus, they must arrange for a responsible adult to do this.

Shibley encouraged parents to reinforce the presentation’s lessons by taking their children to the bus stop to practice what they learned before school starts. She also told parents their children should be “ready and waiting” at the bus stop, but not to panic if the bus is late the first few days.

“Just remember, you’re not the only one who wants that special first-day-of-school picture,” she said. “On the first day of school, when your little one gets on the bus, as you smile and wave with encouragement, you can take pride knowing you helped him or her with the next step to independence. You also made the process a little easier and a lot safer.”



Agawam Junior Women’s Club member Ginny Stempel acts as a bus monitor, helping kids find their seats and get settled before taking a short ride.



Agawam Police Officer John Fields (l) and Donna Shibley help children board a school bus for a short ride to help them feel comfortable riding a bus.



Debbie DiSisto waits to take a picture of her son when he gets off the school bus after his first ride.



It’s all aboard the bus as students eagerly climb the steps of a school bus for the first time.



This young boy was very excited about taking his first school bus ride.

Turley Publications photos by Mike Lydick

Concerns aired by incoming freshmen

By Kelly Bronson
Intern

After graduating high school, the last summer before college usually goes by at an abnormally fast pace. Excitement, nervousness and anticipation for the upcoming unknown are shared between almost all soon-to-be freshmen. Some people cannot wait to leave their hometown to find new adventures but



Agawam News photos by Kelly Bronson
Agawam local, Kate Moriarty takes a break from packing her car for move in day.

others are a little cautious because entering a new place can be scary. Whether the college is a large state university, small liberal arts college or local community college, it will be unfamiliar and filled with brand new people. Because of this, making friends is one of the major things that incoming freshmen are concerned about. Will I like my roommates? Or the people in my classes? Who will I sit with at lunch? These questions will all be settled in a week or so after orientation and roommate bonding. Sports can also play a big part in a student's college life. College sports are taken much more seriously than high school sports and depending on the level, can determine a major league future.

Another big anxiety that plagues incoming freshman is the amount of work they will have to do. The coursework is much more difficult and time-consuming than high school work and professors typically expect more of you. Picking a major is also a big decision that students must decide before their junior year. Freshman at Western New England University, Ereik Brown, has chosen his major to be engineering and says that he is excited to not be in high school anymore but a little nervous to start his career at college.

Aside from the academic pressures, there can also be financial pressure. This is usually a big factor in choosing a college and providing for one. And unfortunately paying for tuition, applying for financial aid and taking out loans are not the only costs of going to college. Books must be purchased as well as furniture and storage to decorate and live in a dorm room. Even without the added cost of room and board, commuting to college will cost gas money and a student will need a surefire way to get to class, such as a car. Summer jobs are key to help pay for living expenses throughout the year and a job during the school year can help lower the burden of tuition. Sophomore Amy Grindle worked



Most college dorm rooms are set up with bunk beds to allow for more space in the room.

at Western New England University in the game room her freshman year to have some extra spending money. Another sophomore, Jake Fernandes, worked several nights a week as an intermural sports referee at Endicott College his freshman year. Jobs on campus are convenient for those students who live on campus without a car their freshman year. While cars are good for transportation to and from college, most freshmen who live on campus cannot bring their cars their first years and those who can must pay a fee for a parking pass.

Even though there are a lot of major changes for students going into their freshman year, many of these changes are welcomed. Many students are excited to start their new lives away from home or just to have a change of schools. The possibility of making and living with new friends while pursuing a major that was handpicked because of the students own interest, is something that almost all incoming freshmen are happy about. Freshman at Elms College Kate Moriarty said that she is mostly excited about starting her new college life. Moriarty will be playing volleyball for Elms and majoring in communication sciences and disorders. Freshmen year can be one of the best years in a person's life and help shape a student into the person they want to be.

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SEPTMBER 12th - 28th

SPORTS

Agawam set with strong defense

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications
Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – It took penalty kicks to oust the Agawam girls soccer team from the Western Massachusetts Division I Tournament last year.

Agawam will be contending with a very difficult schedule again this year, but hope a group of Brownies a year more experienced will be able to take them farther into the tournament this season.

Back this season in the goal is Becca Uschmann, who had her first full year as the varsity starting goalie. Uschmann was in net for most of Agawam’s game last season and performed very well in Agawam’s only tournament game last season.

Providing her with some backup will be Jenna Beach, who spent the summer playing with the “A” summer team and performed very well. She should give Agawam a viable backup when she is needed.

The Brownies will be the strongest on defense this year as they return three very experienced starters. Katie Grasso, Katie Martin, and Lindsey Wassung will be among the projected starters. Martin and Grasso are underclassmen that performed very well last year on defense.

Please see SOCCER, page 14



Back this season in the goal is Becca Uschmann, who had her first full year as the varsity starting goalie.



Turley Publications photos by David Henry sweetdogphotos.com
Jillian Scherpa is expected to help out the offense.

Boys soccer looks for more scoring punch

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications
Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Agawam boys soccer team lacked the offense to stay in a lot of games last season, and struggled in the first month of the season.

The end result was a 6-7-5 record that saw the Brownies on the outside of the tournament looking in. Agawam needed a win in the final two games of the regular season, but lost against East Long-

meadow and Belchertown to close out their schedule.

This year, Agawam is hoping to jump out to a huge start and establish their offense against the competition.

Agawam had a scrimmage against Southwick last week, and learned what newcomer from Albania, Kamer Nuhui.

He scored the first goal of last week’s scrimmage against the Rams to give the Brownies a lead as they cruised to a 3-0 victory. Cam Rivest also notched a goal in

See BROWNIES, page 13



GETTING READY FOR THE SEASON

Turley Publications photos by Gregory A. Scibelli
AGAWAM - The Agawam High School football team works out during preseason practices this week. Agawam is preparing for their season opener Friday against Longmeadow at 7 p.m. at Longmeadow High School.



Lady Brownies look to build on success

By Gregory A. Scibelli
Turley Publications
Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Agawam girls volleyball team will have to overcome the loss of senior leadership and experience as they look for another trip to the Western Massachusetts Tournament.

Agawam has been a consistently good team for the past four years, making the tournament each season.

Two years ago, Agawam had one of their best years, getting all the way to the semifinals of the tournament before losing out to eventual champion Longmeadow.

Last year, Agawam went through some streaky times, but finished the season with a 10-8 record. Agawam had some late season struggles, losing three of four games, but scored a rare defeat over Longmeadow 3-1 and outlasted Amherst, 3-2, in their final two games to close out strong.

See VOLLEYBALL, page 13

Hackers for Cancer Golf Tournament scheduled

AGAWAM - The Hackers for Cancer Golf Tournament is once again getting ready to hack the course to raise money for children with cancer and other life changing illnesses. This is the fourth annual tournament that continues to honor friends and family members that have lost the battle to cancer, as well as to those who continue the battle.

The tournament will be held Saturday, Sept. 20 at Oak Ridge Golf Course in Feeding Hill.

The cost is \$110 per person, which includes 18 holes, golf cart, barbeque lunch and a buffet dinner, golf challenges and many raffles. The cost for dinner only is \$25. Children under the age of 9 eat free.

Registration will take place from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch on the pavilion from 11:30 a.m. to noon. The four-person scramble shotgun start begins at noon. A dinner buffet will follow immediately after the tournament in the lower level banquet hall.

The Hackers for Cancer is also collecting new, unwrapped

BROWNIES, from page 12

the scrimmage, which gave Agawam some encouraging results to work with heading into the regular season.

Nuhiu is expected to play up front alongside last year's leading scorer, Brodie Keene. While the rest of Agawam's offense suffered at times, Keene was able to break through, scoring 13 goals throughout the year. Keene also split some time playing defense.

Alex Sours and Steven Ludtke are expected to contend for the starting goalie job for the Brownies. Sours is going to be a senior this while Ludtke is a junior. The duo replaces Nick Twohig, who graduated.

Returning to the team will be a strong defensive core that played together a lot last season. Chris Basile, Dalton Drummond, Dan Korotich and Kris Page are all back this year. Phil Woods is a senior on defense as well.

Rivest, Tym Regnier, Anthony Sciertelli, Luis Nieves, Nick Hanchett and Brendan Garvey are options in the midfield for coach Tom Smith, who enters his seventh season at the head of the boys soccer team.

VOLLEYBALL, from page 12

Brownies defeated Chicopee in a very strong showing 3-0 in the opening round of last year's tournament, but were defeated by Chicopee Comp in the second round of the tournament 3-0 to get ousted.

Agawam's biggest struggles last year came within their league, where they went 2-6 against some of the toughest volleyball competition in Western Massachusetts.

In 2014, the Brownies will have a similar schedule with matchups on the slate throughout the regular season. Longmeadow, West Springfield, Amherst, Minnechaug and Longmeadow are among their league opponents this year, and all expect to be a challenge once again for the Brownies.

Seniors Rachel Fancy, Taylor Heinbokel, Lexi Sears, and Sharlee Rudzik are on the roster this season for the Brownies. Agawam graduated six seniors last year, including the majority of their starting lineup.

Fancy, Heinbokel, Sears and Rudzik will hope to step up and provide the leadership the rest of the team needs to contend this year. Junior Meghan D'Amours will be back this season and will fill an offensive hitting role.

Emma Sergeychik, Gianna Perella, Cassidy Millikin and Sarah Wyckoff are all juniors on the team as well.

Abby Viens and Caroline Hitchcock have made the roster as sophomores as has Bianca Culhane. Freshman Madison Lockwood also was brought up to the big team this season for coaching Patricia Demers.

Demers will enter her 17th season coaching the girls program. Demers has a long history of winning teams for Agawam volleyball since she helped begin the boys and girls programs 17 years ago.

She received the Mintonette Medallion of Merit Award by the National Volleyball Hall of Fame in October 2012 and has brought the boys volleyball team to three Western Mass. championships during the past four years. The boys won the state title last season.

The girls got their season started Wednesday against Chicopee Comp. They are scheduled to play at East Longmeadow Friday at 5 p.m.

plain white tee shirts, size small and up, and printed duct tape. This will be donated to the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp so the campers can continue to make crafts while at camp.

BAA to host golf tournament

CHICOPEE - The Brimfield Athletic Association will be holding its 23rd fundraiser Sept. 13 at Chicopee Country Club.

The event has a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. In addition we will have several skills holes, long drive and closest to the pin. Golf fees cover the round of golf, a sandwich at the turn, post golf dinner along with a raffle.

Cost for the event is \$85 per golfer in advance and \$100 the day of the event.

For more information and forms, people contact the Association via email at brimfieldathleticassociation@yahoo.com.

Keene and Nuhiu will be joined on offense by Stephen Mateus and Mike Vikovoy.

The expectations are much higher for the Brownies this year after they struggled through last year rebuilding. Agawam showed great promise with a strong performance in the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League. Many varsity players were on the team and Agawam made a playoff appearance, losing against West Springfield in the quarterfinals of the tournament.

The schedule will remain tough for the Brownies, with West Springfield, Cathedral, Belchertown and Longmeadow all on the league slate with two games each. East Longmeadow, Ludlow, and Westfield should also provide a challenge for the Brownies.

Agawam opens up for the regular season Friday at Szot Park as they take on Chicopee at 6:30 p.m. Agawam's home opener is Monday at 7 p.m. against Belchertown.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com.

The Week Ahead

Thursday, Sept. 4		
Boys Soccer	Agawam at Chicopee	6:30 p.m.
Friday, Sept. 5		
Field Hockey	Westfield at Agawam	4 p.m.
Football	Agawam at Longmeadow	7 p.m.
Girls Soccer	Southwick at Agawam	4 p.m.
Girls Volleyball	Agawam at East Longmeadow	5 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 6		
No games scheduled.		
Sunday, Sept. 7		
No games scheduled.		
Monday, Sept. 8		
Boys Soccer	Belchertown at Agawam	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Sept. 9		
Cross Country	West Springfield at Agawam	3:45 p.m.
Golf	Ludlow at Agawam	3 p.m.
Girls Volleyball	Ludlow at Agawam	6 p.m.
Wednesday, Sept. 10		
Field Hockey	Agawam at Longmeadow	4 p.m.
Golf	East Longmeadow at Agawam	3 p.m.
Boys Soccer	Agawam at Holyoke	7 p.m.
Girls Soccer	Minnechaug at Agawam	7 p.m.

Antlerless deer permit instant award period begins

REGION - Hunters who applied for an Antlerless Deer Permit by the July 16 deadline must return to the MassFishHunt licensing system to try to win a permit. The instant award period began Aug. 1 and continues through Dec. 31. This is not a first-come first-served system. The odds of winning an Antlerless Deer Permit during the instant award period are the same whether a customer tries to win in August, September or any time before Dec. 31. Hunters have one chance to try for an instant award Antlerless Deer Permit.

There are three ways in which a hunter may participate and try to win a permit: 1) Log into the MassFishHunt system (see complete instructions below), 2) Visit a Mass-Wildlife office or 3) Visit a license agent location. Staff at these locations will access the MassFishHunt system on the customer's behalf.

Instant Award Antlerless Deer Permit instructions using the MassFishHunt online system

1. Log into the MassFishHunt system with your last name and customer ID
2. Click the Enter Sales button at the bottom right of the screen
3. Click Accept in the Customer Electronic Signature dia-

log box

4. Choose Hunting Permits and Stamps from the main menu on the left
5. Choose Add next to Antlerless Deer Permit
6. Select to check whether an Antlerless Deer Permit has been won for that zone.
7. One of two messages will appear in the center of the screen indicating the Antlerless Deer Permit win/lose status: "Congratulations! You have been awarded an Antlerless Deer Permit which has been placed in your shopping cart. Close this window and click check out to purchase it." or "Unfortunately you did not win this product."

In the case of a "win," an Antlerless Deer Permit will be placed in the shopping cart and people may proceed to Check Out to complete the purchase. Antlerless Deer Permits will remain in the shopping cart until purchased or expired. Winning hunters are reminded to print their Antlerless Deer Permits upon completion of the transaction. All Antlerless Deer Permits expire on Dec. 31 of the year issued. If people did not win a permit, they do not have to take any further action.

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Falcons release 2014-2015 regular season schedule

SPRINGFIELD - The Springfield Falcons, in conjunction with the American Hockey League, have announced their 2014-2015 regular season schedule.

The Falcons will open their 21st AHL campaign on the road against new Northeast Division rival Syracuse Crunch on Oct. 11 and 17 before returning to the MassMutual Center for the Saturday, Oct. 18 home opener against the Hershey Bears at 7 p.m.

Springfield's 76 game schedule features 38 home matches comprised of 11 Friday, 15 Saturday and nine Sunday games. The team will also host three weekday matchups. All games will begin at 7 p.m., with the exception of Sunday games. Oct. 26, Jan. 4, Jan. 11, Feb. 22 and March 8 will have 3 p.m. starts, Jan. 18 has a 4 p.m. start and Dec. 28, Feb. 15 and March 22 begin play at 5 p.m.

The team will face 14 opponents, meeting every other team in the Eastern Division. The most frequent matchup is 10 stints each against rivals Hartford Wolf Pack and Providence Bruins. The Falcons will also play eight games each against Albany, Bridgeport and Syracuse, six against Worcester, four each against Manchester, Norfolk, Portland,

St. John's and Wilkes-Barre/Scranton and two each against Binghamton, Hershey and Lehigh Valley. The Falcons will see the most ice time in November with 15 scheduled contests.

The most home games are in February, with Springfield hosting eight games. They will be traveling for eight in both November and December.

The 2014-2015 schedule will also feature a season-high seven game home stay from Feb. 14 to Feb. 28 after the team embarks on a six game road trip from Dec. 12 to Dec. 27. Prior to the start of the regular season, Springfield will play three preseason matchups. These will pin Springfield against Providence on the road on Oct. 3, returning for a rematch at the MassMutual Center on Oct. 4 at 7 p.m., and Hartford at home on Oct. 5 at 3 p.m.

Ticket packages and group fan experiences for all preseason and regular season games are on sale now. Single game tickets will be available in late September. The complete regular season schedule follows, including start times and opponents.

SOCCER, from page 12

In the midfield, several experienced players return with Alexandria Stuetzel returning as a senior. Stuetzel has provided speed, offense, and defense for the team since being called up during her freshmen year. Julia Serra, Allie Wysocki, and Jackie Neilsen also figure to play into the midfield picture for Agawam.

On offense, expect Jillian Scherpa, Kristina Lemire, Sarah Graves, and Sarah Carron to be looking for goals for the Brownies.

Scherpa and Graves performed very well last season, both providing some goals for the Brownies. Carron played for the Western Mass. entrant in the Bay State Games. The Western Mass. team captured the gold medal by beating Central Mass. 2-1.

One freshman was brought on to the varsity squad. Cassandra Jones has made the team for this season.

Last year, Agawam qualified for the despite a sub-.500 record by placing second in their league thanks to a couple of late-season victories. Agawam would then face Longmeadow in the quarterfinals, and battled to a 0-0 tie with a few minutes left. Then both teams scored goals in the final three minutes of the game, Agawam getting the equalizer to force overtimes. It came down to penalty kicks and Agawam was defeated. 3-1.

Agawam will see Chicopee Comp, West

Springfield, Minnechaug, Northampton, Westfield, and Longmeadow on their league schedule. To start the regular season, the Brownies had a home game against Comp.

Friday afternoon, the Brownies will have an independent game against neighboring Southwick at 4 p.m. Agawam hosts Minnechaug on Sept. 10 at 7 p.m.

Agawam girls soccer received the sportsmanship award from the Western Massachusetts Soccer Officials Association at the end of last year.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports correspondent for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com

Car wash to benefit girls volleyball

AGAWAM - The Agawam High School girls volleyball team will be holding a Car Wash/Bake Sale at Sacred Heart Church, Springfield Street in Feeding Hills on Sept. 6 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

\$5 per car.

All proceeds to benefit the AHS girls volleyball team.


Falcons schedule

Date	Time	Opponent	Wednesday, Dec. 10	7 p.m.	vs. Syracuse	Sunday, Feb. 15	5 p.m.	vs. Lehigh Valley
Saturday, Oct. 11	7 p.m.	at Syracuse	Friday, Dec. 12	7:30 p.m.	at Norfolk	Friday, Feb. 20	7 p.m.	vs. Hartford
Friday, Oct. 17	7 p.m.	at Syracuse	Saturday, Dec. 13	7:15 p.m.	at Norfolk	Saturday, Feb. 21	7 p.m.	vs. Portland
Saturday, Oct. 18	7 p.m.	vs. Hershey	Friday, Dec. 19	7:05 p.m.	at Binghamton	Sunday, Feb. 22	3 p.m.	vs. Albany
Sunday Oct. 19	3 p.m.	at Bridgeport	Saturday, Dec. 20	7 p.m.	at Hershey	Friday, Feb. 27	7 p.m.	vs. Bridgeport
Friday, Oct.24	7:05 p.m.	at Wilkes-Barre/Scranton	Friday, Dec. 26	7 p.m.	at Hartford	Saturday, Feb. 28	7 p.m.	vs. Bridgeport
Saturday, Oct. 25	7 p.m.	vs. Norfolk	Saturday, Dec. 27	5 p.m.	at Albany	Sunday, March 1	3 p.m.	at Portland
Sunday, Oct. 26	3 p.m.	vs. Syracuse	Sunday, Dec. 28	5 p.m.	vs. Syracuse	Saturday, March 7	7:05 p.m.	at Providence
Saturday, Nov. 1	7 p.m.	vs. Providence	Friday, Jan. 2	7 p.m.	at Portland	Sunday, March 8	3 p.m.	vs. Wilkes-Barre/Scranton
Sunday, Nov. 2	3 p.m.	at Bridgeport	Saturday, Jan. 3	7 p.m.	vs. Worcester	Friday, March 13	7 p.m.	vs. Hartford
Wednesday, Nov. 5	7 p.m.	vs. St. John's	Sunday, Jan. 4	3 p.m.	vs. Manchester	Saturday, March 14	7 p.m.	vs. Providence
Friday, Nov. 7	7 p.m.	vs. St. John's	Friday, Jan. 9	7:05 p.m.	at Providence	Sunday, March 15	3 p.m.	at Albany
Saturday, Nov. 8	7 p.m.	at Manchester	Saturday, Jan. 10	7 p.m.	vs. Hartford	Friday, March 20	7 p.m.	vs. Bridgeport
Tuesday, Nov. 11	3 p.m.	vs. Worcester	Sunday, Jan. 11	3 p.m.	vs. Albany	Saturday, March 21	7 p.m.	vs. Hartford
Friday, Nov. 14	7:05 p.m.	at Providence	Wednesday, Jan. 14	7 p.m.	at Albany	Sunday, March 22	5 p.m.	vs. Syracuse
Saturday, Nov. 15	7 p.m.	at Worcester	Sunday, Jan. 18	4 p.m.	vs. Binghamton	Friday, March 27	7 p.m.	vs. Worcester
Sunday, Nov. 16	3 p.m.	at Bridgeport	Friday, Jan. 23	7 p.m.	at Hartford	Saturday, March 28	7 p.m.	vs. Hartford
Friday, Nov. 21	7 p.m.	vs. Bridgeport	Saturday, Jan. 24	7 p.m.	vs. Providence	Sunday, March 29	3 p.m.	at Worcester
Saturday, Nov. 22	7 p.m.	vs. Providence	Friday, Jan. 30	7 p.m.	vs. Wilkes-Barre/Scranton	Wednesday, April 1	11 a.m.	at Bridgeport
Sunday, Nov. 23	3:05 p.m.	at Providence	Saturday, Jan. 31	7 p.m.	at Hartford	Friday, April 3	7 p.m.	vs. Albany
Wednesday, Nov. 26	7:05 p.m.	at Lehigh Valley	Tuesday, Feb. 3	7:05 p.m.	at Wilkes-Barre/Scranton	Saturday, April 4	7 p.m.	vs. Portland
Friday, Nov. 28	7:30 p.m.	at Worcester	Friday, Feb 6	7 p.m.	vs. Albany	Friday, April 10	7 p.m.	at Hartford
Saturday, Nov. 29	7 p.m.	vs. Manchester	Saturday, Feb. 7	7 p.m.	at Syracuse	Saturday, April 11	7 p.m.	at Syracuse
Tuesday, Dec. 2	7 p.m.	at Albany	Sunday, Feb. 8	3:05 p.m.	at Providence	Friday, April 17	7:30 p.m.	at St. John's
Friday, Dec. 5	7 p.m.	vs. Norfolk	Friday, Feb. 13	7 p.m.	at Manchester	Saturday, April 18	7:30 p.m.	at St. John's
Saturday, Dec. 6	7 p.m.	at Hartford	Saturday, Feb. 14	7 p.m.	vs. Providence			

Pioneer Valley Lightning Youth Hockey Association

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*All participants must have a USA Hockey approved helmet with cage or full face shield, skates and gloves/mittens. We highly recommend that skaters also wear shin and elbow pads.



DATES: September 13 - December 13
COST: \$45.00
LOCATION: Fitzpatrick Arena, 575 Maple Street, Holyoke, MA
TIME: Learn-to-Skate 10:50am-11:30am; Learn-to-Play-Hockey 11:30am-12:10pm
REGISTRATION INFO: www.pioneervalleyhockey.org
Any questions, please call Leslie Brunelle at (413) 530-5741

Bus trip to Fenway

SPRINGFIELD/PALMER - The Melha Shriners are sponsoring a bus trip to Fenway Park to see the Boston Red Sox take on the Toronto Blue Jays at 7:10 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 5.

The cost is \$120 per person and gives you a seat in Section 24, which is located between home plate and third base.

The bus leaves at 4 p.m. from the Melha Shrine Center, 133 Longhill St., Springfield, or at 4:30 p.m. from Big Y in Palmer.

A bag lunch and beverages will be included.

For more information, contact Vince at 413-686-8136.

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The Holyoke Sun • Wilbraham-Hampden Times • The Town Common • Town Reminder • Ware River News

Obituaries & Church News

DEATH NOTICES & SERVICES

Bitzas, Harry
Died Aug. 26, 2014
Funeral Aug. 29, 2014
Colonial-Forastiere
Funeral Home
Agawam

Calise, Carmela E.
Died Aug. 27, 2014
Funeral Sept. 3, 2014
Joseph F. Nardone
Funeral Home
Peekskill, N.Y.

Earle, Henry C. III
Died Aug. 12, 2014
Memorial Service Aug.
30, 2014
Trinity United Method-
ist Church
Springfield

Gendreau, Keith P.
Died Aug. 22, 2014
Funeral Aug. 28, 2014
Agawam Curran-Jones
Funeral Home

Kane, Gerard W.
Died Aug. 25, 2014
Funeral Aug. 29, 2014
Colonial-Forastiere
Funeral Home
Agawam

**Mercadante, Louis
"Sonny" Vincent**
Died: August 12, 2014
Services: September 8,
2014
St Thomas Church
West Springfield

Ouimet, Andrew G.
Died Aug. 31, 2014
Funeral Sept. 3, 2014
Agawam Curran-Jones
Funeral Home

Savioli, Henry J.
Died Aug. 25, 2014
Private Funeral
West Springfield Cur-
ran-Jones
Funeral Home

Scott, Daniel L.
Died Aug. 26, 2014
Funeral Aug. 29, 2014
Agawam Funeral Home

Agawam Advertiser News Obituary Policy

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$50, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

Louis "Sonny" Vincent Mercadante

Louis "Sonny" Vincent Mercadante, 77, of Ft. Myers, FL, passed away on 8/12/14. Born in Springfield on 9/4/36 to the late James & Katherine (Rosso) Mercadante, he was raised and schooled in Agawam. Lou was a lifelong salesman and was very proud of his many awards and accomplishments. He was also a sports lover whether he was playing, watching or coaching. Lou was a loving father to his 4 children- Dean Mercadante and wife Carol of Feeding Hills and their 3 sons, Derek, Shawn and Thomas; Lori Gendreau and husband Brian of West Springfield and son Nicolas; Darcy Uzdilla Reynaert and husband Doug of Ft. Myers and 3 daughters Janelle, Deanne



and Charlene; and Jay Mercadante of Agawam. He also leaves his former wife, Julie Mercadante Fitzgerald of Ft. Myers. Lou also leaves 6 great grandchildren- Vincent, Joey, Makayla, Makenzie, Carter and Mayci. Lou is survived by 2 sisters- Joyce Coughlin and husband Ralph of Longmeadow and Dona Mercadante of Feeding Hills. A Memorial Mass is scheduled for 9a.m. on Monday, September 8 at St. Thomas Church in West Springfield followed by a Committal Service at St. Thomas Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions in memory of Louis may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, 264 Cottage Street, Springfield, MA 01104.

Dancers, celebrities team up with Kiwanis for charity

The Kiwanis Club of West Springfield and Agawam will host "Dancing with the Local Stars" Friday, Oct. 17 at 6 p.m. at Oak Ridge Country Club in Feeding Hills. This unique fundraising event will also feature professional dance performances, a performance by Ethel Lee and a buffet dinner. A local celebrity will be paired with a professional dancer to perform a choreographed dance in the competition. Headlining the event for Agawam is City Councilor Jim Cichetti. Mayor Richard Cohen will be on the judging panel. Other celebrities taking part include Sharon Roulier, host of Real to Reel; Aliz Koteles, host and producer of WGBY's "Connecting Point;" and from West Springfield,

Mayor Ed Sullivan, Police Chief Ron Cam-purciani, Fire Chief Bill Flaherty, City Councilor Bridget Fiala, Officer Paulita Hannah, State Rep. Mike Finn and State Sen. Jim Welch. Local professionals Lynn Hadden-Quinn (LHQ Danceforce) and David Bovat are among the featured dancers showing the celebrity team how it's done. Steve Nagel from Rock102 will act as emcee and disc jockey. The winner of the dance competition will select their favorite children's charity and the Kiwanis Club will donate \$500 to that charity. Tickets are \$45 per person, which includes dinner. For sponsorship information or tickets, contact Robin at 209-0369.

Catholic Women's Club announce meetings

The Catholic Women's Club will meet Monday, Sept. 8 at the St. John the Evangelist Church parish center beginning at 6:30 p.m. The night's events will include a "Silver Tea" with Adele Gallano, chairperson. Guest speaker will be Judith Kappenman, author of "To Dakota and Back: The Story of an Orphan Train Rider." Autographed copies of her book will be available for purchase following the program.

A Living Rosary will be held at the Tuesday, Oct. 14 meeting at St. John's Church beginning at 6 p.m. Refreshments will follow in the parish center.

Guests and new members are always welcome at all Catholic Women's Club meetings.

Weekly Newspaper Editor Sought

The Agawam Advertiser News, a weekly newspaper with an office in Feeding Hills, MA, is seeking a managing editor to handle day-to-day operations. The preferred candidate will possess strong management, organizational and people skills; editorial experience in news and feature reporting, including writing, editing, assigning, photography, and social media content; have the ability and willingness to represent the newspaper in the community through coverage of meetings/events and involvement in community activities.

This is an excellent opportunity for an experienced individual who enjoys community weekly journalism, meeting deadlines and organizing and managing correspondents.

The successful candidate must also possess a strong desire to network actively within the community and maintain close working relationships with colleagues and cultural, political, educational and municipal departments.

This is a job for a self-starter who has a vision for growing and connecting with our valued readers.

If this describes you, please send your resume to:
Timothy D. Kane, Executive Editor, Turley Publications, Inc.,
80 Main Street, Ware, MA 01082 or via email at tkane@turley.com

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Hearing Test Set for Senior Citizens

Announcement- **Free electronic hearing tests** will be given from Monday-Friday 9am - 5pm at Avada Hearing Care Centers at 9 locations in Western Mass. Call to find the location nearest to you. The test has been arranged for anyone who suspects they are not hearing clearly. People who usually say they can hear but have trouble with understanding words are encouraged to come in for the tests. The testing includes newly-developed tests that determine your ability to hear speech in noisy environments. Everyone, especially those over 55 who have trouble hearing words clearly, should have a test annually. Demonstrations of the latest devices to improve clarity of speech will be available, on the spot, after the tests. You can HEAR for yourself if the latest methods of correction will help you understand words better. Call for your Appointment **1-888-798-8528**

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CLUES ACROSS
1. Nuclear near reach weapon
5. Delicately beautiful
11. Queen of the gods
12. Reordered letters
15. Representation
16. 24th state
17. Irritated
19. Large black dog breed
24. Atomic #18
25. Followed
26. Ivy University
27. Equal, prefix
28. Cablegram (abbr.)
29. Affront
30. 7th Hindu month
31. Competed
33. Slur
34. Shape before marketing
38. Comes into being
39. White House architect
40. Brazilian dance

CLUES DOWN
43. Somalian supermodel
44. Yield
45. Electric Cobra model 80
48. Local area network (abbr.)
49. Substitution
50. "Thornbirds" actress Ward
53. Not out
54. Male ice dancing champion
56. Tops of birds' heads
58. Carrier's invention
59. Children's author Blyton
60. Anise liqueur
63. Listing
64. Adult females
65. Yellow Dutch cheese

CLUES DOWN
2. Not long past
3. Casually inspect
4. Masculine
5. Wish harm upon
6. Capable of soothing
7. Farm state
8. Initials of HLN legal host
9. Planets 120 degrees apart
10. An enclosed field
13. Initials of one of the Olson twins
14. Coastal
18. Remote control aircraft (pl.)
20. Oersted (abbr.)
21. Blue Hen school
22. Prestige
23. Vestment
27. Egyptian goddess
29. Atomic #21
30. Boxer Muhammad
31. Fast gallop
32. Indicates position
33. Geological time

CLUES DOWN
34. Elizabeth's Prince
35. Balkan nation
36. Israeli politician Abba ____
37. Indicates ability
38. Universal recipient blood group
40. Clairvoyant
41. Blandish
42. Of I
44. Former OSS
45. Deviously plan
46. Polished shoes
47. Visual processing membrane
49. Tibet's capital
50. 2nd musical tone
51. Expression of sympathy
52. Bog Labrador-tea
54. To furnish with a ceiling
55. Frosts
57. Natural logarithm
61. - ___, denotes past
62. Atomic #22

Answers on page 8

Buzzin' from Town to Town



Classifieds

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Make a Fast Friend!

Greyhound Options Inc. Call Mary at 413-566-3129 or Claire at 413-967-9088 or go to www.greyhoundoptions.org.

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HORSEBACK RIDING LESSONS offered year round at our state of the art facility. Beginner to advanced. Ages 4 years to adult. Boarding, sales and leasing also available. Convenient location at Orion Farm in South Hadley. (413)532-9753 www.orionfarm.net

Help Wanted

DRIVERS: CDL-A. AVERAGE \$52,000 per yr. plus. Excellent Home Time + Weekends. Monthly Bonuses up to \$650. 5,000w APU's for YOUR Comfort + E-Logs. Excellent Benefits. 100% no touch. 877-704-3773

Help Wanted

DRIVERS: DEDICATED WINDSOR freight! 100% driver unloading using rollers. Average of \$52,000.00 yearly. Full Comprehensive Benefits Pkg! Werner Enterprises: 1-855-615-4429

EXPERIENCED LANDSCAPER-TRIM bushes, grass, operate zero turn lawnmower or walk behind. Must have own vehicle, pickup truck a plus! (413)301-4997, (413)796-7948.

FOSTER CARE: YOU can help change someone's life. Learn about working with children and teens who have been abused and neglected. Mandatory training to begin in September. Call Devereux Therapeutic Foster Care at 413-734-2493.

HAIRSTYLIST WANTED FOR booth rental in trendy East Longmeadow salon. Please call 413-531-4125.

HHA'S, CNA'S, needed. Highest competitive rates for Home Care Agency, also paid mileage. Professional Medical Services, Inc. (413)289-9018 Ask for Denise EOE

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25 Base Price 26.50	26 Base Price 27.00	27 Base Price 27.50	28 Base Price 28.00
29 Base Price 28.50	30 Base Price 29.00	31 Base Price 29.50	32 Base Price 30.00
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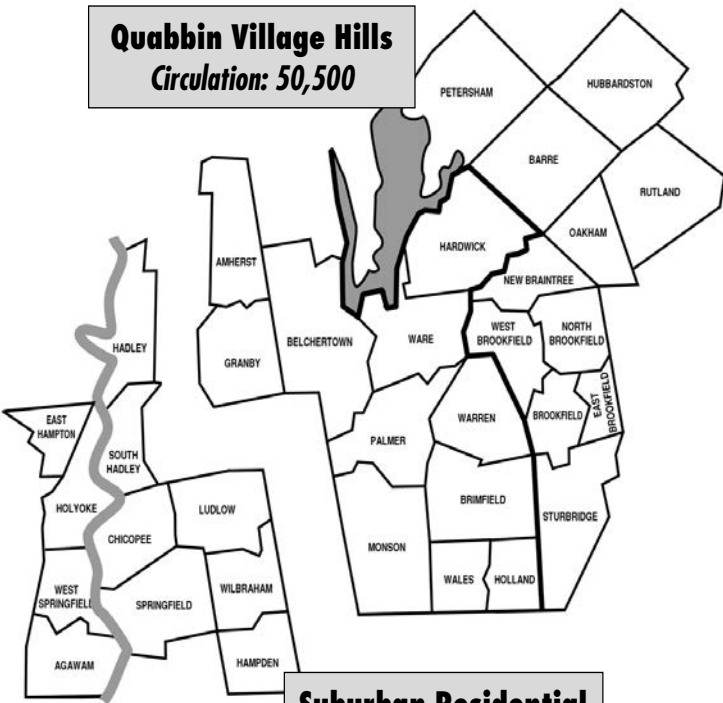
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Or call 413-283-7084 to place your ad.

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Health Care

GET PAID TO CARE FOR YOUR LOVED ONE AT HOME

Massachusetts MENTOR's Family First program provides support and financial assistance to help you care for a loved one at home. Whether you have a sibling with a developmental disability or an elderly parent who needs care at home our program can help. This program is free for families and paid for by masshealth. Family First is designed to meet the needs of each individual we serve and their caregivers. We provide:

- In-home nursing consultation
- Individual service plans
- 24/7 on-call support
- In-home case management
- Medication management

To qualify for Family First, the person you care for must:

- Be at least 16 years of age
- Must be living with you
- Receive Mass Health Insurance (Standard or CommonHealth)
- Require assistance with daily living activities
- Be medically eligible for services

Know someone who may be interested in Family First? Refer them to us for a chance to earn \$500.00 Call **508-368-2724** for more details.

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Real Estate

225 Quaboag St, Warren

YOU WILL FALL IN LOVE with this house. Meticulously maintained split entry ranch. Stone walkway greets you, beautiful color pallet, master suite, his and her closets, master bath, large cabinet packed kitchen, sliders to a patio, fire pit. You'll love the upstairs and the WOW factor will hit you again in the finished lower level! French doors into laundry room with half bath and space for a home office. Two car garage. **This house located in a sleepy town will meet all your expectations.** Easy access to the Mass Pike in Palmer or Sturbridge makes this the ideal location for commuters. *Quaboag Regional School District is a plus!*

Take a virtual tour by smart phone with this QR code

Or view photos of the home online at <http://tinyurl.com/oa4j9yv>

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HISTORIC HOME PALMER Live "mortgage free" in this vintage home by renting out the upstairs! Central Palmer location with easy access to stores, Post Office, churches, etc. Many upgrades. Has nice, wraparound porch. Will sell "as-is" \$140,000. Call **(413)283-4913.**

Real Estate

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WALES: Open House Sat 11-1. 100 Wales Rd. Horse Property, contemporary home, spacious and open, barn set up for 4+ horses, riding area, two living rooms, balcony off master suite Oversized private deck. \$239,900

NEW BRAINTREE: Privately set three bedroom ranch on 2+ acres, three season room and partially finished lower level. \$169,000

WARE: Older home has new roof, on small side street just outside of town. Two enclosed porches, nice yard Potential for conversion to income property. \$74,500

WARE: Beautiful four bedroom colonial near Park, three season room, two full baths. Oversized attached garage. Come sit on the porch and enjoy. \$188,900

WARREN: Unique colonial with very spacious interior, large family room and kitchen area, lots of windows for natural light, huge patio area for summer fun. \$159,900

HARDWICK: Log Home, private setting, four bedrooms, 7.88 acres, large country kitchen with deck area off the back, two car garage. If you want a log home look here \$270,000.

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Alan Varnum	508-867-2727
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For Rent

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

FOR RENT

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

LUDLOW, 181 STATE ST., 2 BEDROOM apartment, 1st fl, includes refrig., stove. Available 7/31/14. \$700/ mo. No Pets Allowed Call **(413)315-0368.**

MONSON REMODELED 1 BR \$650 plus electric. Credit background check, references. First, last plus \$300 non refundable cleaning/ re-key fee. **(678)613-5059**

PALMER BONDSVILLE 1 bed \$650 mo., includes heat & HW, renovated, parking available, on-site laundry. No pets. Available September 1st **(508)330-6629**

PALMER. LARGE 4 BR \$1,100, w/d hook-up, eat-in kitchen, pantry, yard. Pet OK, off-street parking. **(413)283-4898, (413)265-4712, (617)833-7540**

For Rent

THREE RIVERS TWO bedroom. Second floor, washer/dryer hook-up. Off street parking. \$700 First month plus security deposit. **413-687-7318**

WARE FRESHLY PAINTED 2 Bdrm, 2nd floor, off-street parking \$600/ month plus utilities. First, last required **(413)323-8707.**

WARE- SPACIOUS, SUNNY 3 BR Townhouse apt \$750 plus utilities, New kitchen, w/d hook-up, storage. No smoking, no pets. **(413)320-5784.**

WILBRAHAM ROOM FOR RENT, non smoker, pool, quiet location, no utilities. \$500/ mo. **(413)596-5048.**

LUDLOW DUPLEX- AVAIL 10-1, 4 rm, 1 1/2 baths, stove, & fridge incl., no pets/smoking, \$825 mo. 1st, last & sec. dep. **413-896-6353**

Vacation Rentals

WARM WEATHER IS year round in Aruba. The water is safe, and the dining is fantastic. Walk out to the beach. 3-bedroom weeks available. Sleeps 8. \$3500. Email: carolaction@aol.com for more information.

Auto For Sale

'92 BUICK ROADMASTER, good condition, leather seats, less than 130K miles, well maintained. Have title. \$3,000 or B/O. **(413)283-5151**

Auto Services

USED TIRES- CARS & TRUCKS, 13" to 20" mounted & balanced. Used Autos & Trucks \$1,000 to \$4,000. RPS Auto, 1181 Park Street, Palmer **(413)289-1537**

Autos Wanted

\$\$\$ AUTOS WANTED TOP Dollar paid for your unwanted cars, trucks, vans, big and small, running or not. Call **413-534-5400.**

CASH FOR CARS: Any make, model or year. We pay more! Running or not. Sell your car or truck today. Free towing! Instant offer: **1-800-871-0654.**

Land Wanted

LAND WANTED - Young couple looking for land, in Belchertown, to build home and raise family, pets and farm animals. NOT for development. **(413)262-6291**

Mobile Homes

MONSON PALMER LINE 1985, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 14'x67', all appliances, shingle roof, large shed 8'x14', 3 car driveway \$48,000. **413-593-9961** **DASAP.MHVILLAGE.COM**

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Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote “free” events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Friday, Sept. 5

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL’S APPLAUSE SERIES begins its 11th season with a performance by the Millennium Magic Chorus at the Agawam Senior Center beginning at 7 p.m. All Applause events are free and open to the library. For more information, visit www.agawamcc.org.

THE ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTER OF WESTERN MASS., 56 Margaret St., Springfield, will host a showing of “Rome Open City.” Doors open at 6 p.m.; movie will start at 7 p.m. Donation is \$7 for members and \$10 for non-members and includes beverage and snack. For more information, visit www.iccwm.org or email iccwm@comcast.net.

THE SPRINGFIELD SCIENCE MUSEUM’S large rooftop telescope will open for public sky gazing at 7:30 p.m. as part of the “Stars Over Springfield” observatory series. Best suited for families with children ages 8 and older, however younger children welcome. Admission is \$3 for adults and \$2 for children 17 and under. Rain or shine. Secure, free, onsite parking available. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 318.

Saturday, Sept. 6

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN’S CLUB will host a tag sale and craft fair at St. John the Evangelist Church, located at 833 Main St., Agawam, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The public is invited.

THE AGAWAM DOG OWNERS GROUP will host its second Annual ADOG Field Day from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Shea Field in Agawam. The day’s events will include food, vendors, wiener races, dog photos, raffles and more. The public is invited.

THE HOLYOKE MERRY-GO-ROUND is open Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. The public is invited. For more information, call (413) 538-9838 or visit www.holyokemerrygoround.org.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY at the Agawam Department of Public Works Saturday, Sept. 6 at the DPW Annex, 1000 Suffield St., from 9 a.m. to noon. This event is free to Agawam residents, but pre-registration is required. Call the DPW at 821-0600 ext. 0 or 821-0624.

Sunday, Sept. 7

THE AGAWAM HISTORICAL AND FIREHOUSE MUSEUM, located at 35 Elm St., will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. A new exhibit, “Riverside Park - A Century as the Playground of the Connecticut Valley” will be featured. David Cecchi will be present to answer questions and share additional pieces of his collection of Riverside Park memorabilia. He will also be available to sign copies of his book on Riverside Park.

THE HOLYOKE MERRY-GO-ROUND will offer all grandparents a free ride when accompanied by a paying rider in celebration of Grandparent’s Day. For more information, call (413) 538-9838 or visit www.holyokemerrygoround.org.

Monday, Sept. 8

INTERACTIVE CONVERSATIONAL ENGLISH CLASS at the Agawam Public Library every Monday from 6 to 7:30 p.m. beginning Monday, Sept. 8. These classes are free and open to the public. For more information or to register, contact Judy Clini at the library at 413-789-1550 ext. 8855 or email jclini@agawamlibrary.org.

THE CATHOLIC WOMEN’S CLUB will meet Monday, Sept. 8 at the St. John the Evangelist Church parish center beginning at 6:30 p.m. The night’s events will include a “Silver Tea” with Adele Gallano.

Tuesday, Sept. 9

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL will meet at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., Agawam. The meeting is open to the public. This all-volunteer organization, appointed by the mayor and funded, in part, by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, is looking for new members.

THE AGAWAM SENIOR CENTER will host a free movie (“Still Mine”) at 12:30 p.m. The public is welcome.

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library. No registration needed.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will hold a blood drive for Mercy Medical Center’s blood bank from 2 to 6 p.m. at St. John’s Church, 833 Main St., Agawam. For more information, call 786-3091.

THE AGAWAM GARDEN CLUB will hold a meeting Tuesday, Sept. 9 at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, located at 954 Main St. Guest speaker for the evening will be David Cecchi, who will discuss the history of Agawam farming.

Wednesday, Sept. 10

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at a cost of \$7 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is welcome.

THE SPRINGFIELD TURNVEREIN, located at 60 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills, offers Trivia Night every Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m. The public is invited to come as one or as a team. Subjects include general knowledge, sports, history, music and more. Prizes awarded.

MARIE STURDEVANT, author of “Somewhere In The Western Pacific: The War Through The Eyes Of My Father,” will host a discussion about her book Wednesday, Sept. 10 at the Agawam Senior Center.

Thursday, Sept. 11

THE AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH FAMILY PLAYGROUP, which takes place at the church at 745 Main St., Agawam, is open to children birth through age 5 with a parent or caregiver and meets weekly on Thursdays from 9:30-11 a.m. It includes crafts, stories, songs, free play and more. For more information, call 786-7111 or email jbrownacc@verizon.net.

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present “Money, Museums & Masterpieces” featuring Richard Muhlberger, former director at the Worcester Art Museum, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts, at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

UPCOMING AND ONGOING

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD COIN CLUB will meet Sunday, Sept. 14 at 7 p.m. in the Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Elm St., West Springfield. A small auction will take place and refreshments will be served. Guests welcome. For more information, call Peter Setian at 596-9871.

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS will host a “mini tour” Sunday, Sept. 14 at 1 p.m., led by Bobby Girard, Wood Museum of Springfield History, highlighting “Everett Barney: A Tale of Steel and Ice.” The tour is free with museum admission and secure, free onsite parking is available.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS will hold a blood drive Monday, Sept. 15 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. For more information or to make an appointment to donate blood, visit redcrossblood.org or call (800) 733-2767.

THE HAWKS AT MT. TOM PROGRAM will be held at Holyoke Heritage State Park Sunday, Sept. 21 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. All raptor programs are free and open to the public. The “Eyes on Owls” will present once in the morning and again in the afternoon and Tom Ricardi, raptor rehabilitation specialist will present his show at noon.

FITNESS FIRST HEALTH & FITNESS CENTER, 60 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills, will host a blood drive sponsored by Mercy Medical Center, Friday, Sept. 26 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. A driver’s license with photo or state identification with photo is required to donate blood. All donors should eat at least two to three hours prior to donating, weigh at least 110 pounds and must be 18 years or older. To make an appointment, call (413) 786-1460.

NATIONAL DRUG TAKE BACK DAY is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 27 at Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main St., from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

THE NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS OF WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS will host “An Evening of hope and Recovery” gala dinner, Saturday, Oct. 4 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Chez Josef, 176 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam. Keynote speaker will be Kitty Dukakis, former Massachusetts First Lady and mental health advocate. For more information, visit www.namiwm.org or call (413) 426-0907 or (413) 244-5826.

DIXIELAND STOMP, a six-man group that performs traditional New Orleans Ragtime/Dixieland music, will present a free concert Sunday, Oct. 5 at 7 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Atonement, 36 Court St, Westfield. The public is invited.

KIWANIS CLUB of West Springfield and Agawam will host “Dancing with the Local Stars” Friday, Oct. 17 at 6 p.m. at Oak Ridge Country Club in Feeding Hills. Tickets are \$45 per person, which includes dinner. For sponsorship information or tickets, contact Robin at 209-0369.

A BLOOD CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets the fourth Tuesday of each month, 6 to 7:30 p.m., Agawam Senior Center conference room. A light dinner is served. For more information or to register, call (413) 789-0200, visit www.springfieldmed.com, or email survivorshipprogram@gmail.com.

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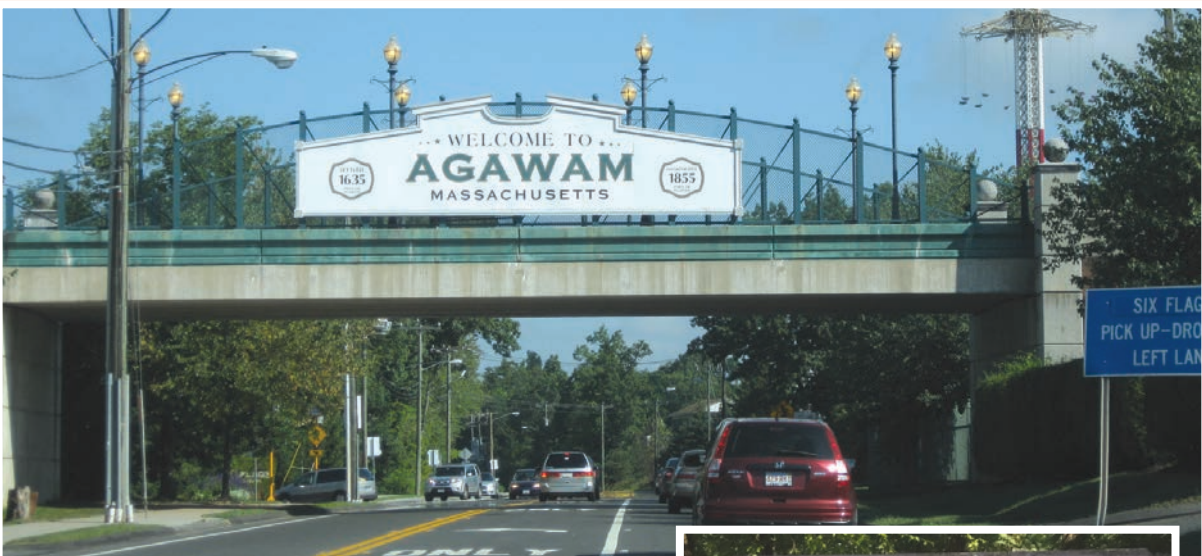
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Labor Day Weekend in Agawam



The annual Summertime Festival sign can be seen in the center of Feeding Hills and gives the dates of concerts throughout the summer.



The sign that welcomes visitors to Agawam is right next to Six Flags New England, which is heavily populated during the Labor Day weekend.



Tag sales are extremely common during this weekend especially with nice weather outside.



Robinson State Park is always bustling with runners, dog-walkers or just those who enjoy nature.



The Connecticut River Walk and Bikeway is usually crowded on nice days with people exercising.



A local fitness business utilizes the park off of North Street during a morning class.



Hunter practices his soccer at the Robinson pool fields in the warm sun.



The School Street Park is a popular place for children to play on cloudy, weekend days.



The beauty of Feeding Hills is shown in this picturesque view of a farm on Pine Street.

Turley Publications photos by
Kelly Bronson